Residential Schools for Tribal Students in Hill Areas of Assam

1964. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any proposal to establish residential schools for tribal students in hill areas in Assam, particularly in North Cachar Hills and Karbi Anglong Districts of Assam;

(b) if so, the full details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government will consider a new proposal to establish the same in hill areas of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) The Government has not formulated any scheme to establish residential schools for tribal students exclusively in hill areas of Assam. However, the Ministry has been implementing Plan schemes of Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas and Grants-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations all over the country including the State of Assam whereunder grants are released to implementing agencies for residential schools. Under the scheme of Ashram Schools, 50% grant is released to the State Government only for construction of Ashram Schools. Under the scheme of Grants-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations, 90% grant is released to the Non-Government Organisations for setting up and running of residential schools. During 1998-99, under the scheme of Ashram Schools, an amount of Rs. 25.20 lakhs has been released to State Government of Assam for construction of two Ashram Schools — one at Tamulpur in District Nalbari and the other at Gohpur in District Sonitpur. Under the scheme of Grants-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations, no proposal has been received from any of voluntary organisation of the State for setting up of residentail schools.

Improvement of Sanitation Conditions in Metro Cities

1965. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court has expressed serious concern over the insanitary conditions in the metropolitan cities of Mumbai, Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai and Bangalore;

(b) if so, the occasion on which such concern was expressed by the Supreme Court;

(c) the specific steps Government proposed to take in order to improve the low standard of insanitation and unhygenic surroundings including the means for the disposal of solid wastes in the metropolitan cities; and

(d) by when the action in this regard would be initiated?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In Writ Petition (Civil) No. 888/96 filed by Mrs. Almitra H. Patel against the Union of India and others, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has expressed concern about the state of uncleanliness in the metro cities of Mumbai, Chennai, Calcutta, Delhi and Bangalore. The Hon'ble Court has further directed all concerned State Governments has Municipal Corporations vide its order dated 24.11.99 to submit specific details regarding the steps to be taken for cleaning of these cities.

(c) and (d) Since solid waste management is a State subject, necessary steps have to be taken by the State Governments and the urban local bothes to improve the situation. With reference to the above court matter, the Ministry of Urban Development, after consulting the concerned Ministries and Planning Commission, has constituted a Technology Advisory Group on 18.8.99 for a period of 5 years under the chairmanship of Adviser, Central Public Health & Environmental Engineering Organisation and consisting of representatives from some of the State Governments, Municipal Corporations and concerned Ministries/Departments to look into certain specific aspects of solid waste management, viz., appropriate technology, financial resources, human resource development, private sector participation and public awareness.

Construction of Barrage in Kanpur U.P.

†1966. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a joint project of Rs. 294 crore was sanctioned for construction of barrage and drinking water component plant in Kanpur on the basis of equal participation of Government of Uttar Pradesh had the Cental Government;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.